



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

NEWS

Eastern Region - 2714 N. Mayfair - Spokane, WA 9907 - (509) 324-6000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Al Gilson, Public Information Officer, (509) 324-6015

Design and Access Hearings to be held for Improvements to U.S. 195

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is in the preliminary design phase for corridor safety improvements on U.S. 195 between Hatch Road and Interstate 90 in the southwest quadrant of the City of Spokane. As a part of that process, the Department will hold a Design Hearing and Limited Access Hearing on the project.

The hearings will be held on Wednesday, May 29, 2002 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 5720 S. Perry in Spokane (the vicinity of 57th and Hatch Road on the Spokane south hill).

Two hearings will take place on this day. The design hearing will start at 12:00 p.m. and be an open house for all interested parties to attend. The Department will be presenting the final design recommendations for the corridor. Citizens are encouraged to come and review the plans and environmental documents, discuss the material presented and make comments to the official record. This portion of the hearing will last until 4:00 p.m.

The Limited Access hearing will follow at 5:00 p.m. This is a formal hearing with an Administrative Law Judge directing the proceedings. Plans will be presented by Department staff with regards to limiting access to and from US 195. Affected property owners are then invited to make comments directly into record. This portion of the hearing will last until all affected properties have been addressed.

A court recorder will be present to document the oral comments. Written comments are to be returned within 10 days of the hearing. By Law, all comments will be addressed and incorporated into the final documents of the project.

Programming funding for right-of-way purchases, and ultimately construction work, will be able to get underway following approval of the final right-of-way documents that are developed as a result of the hearings and the subsequent Findings and Order.

The Department is proposing the addition of interchanges on U.S. 195 and completion of the local city street network in this area.

For additional information or to review the project before the hearings, interested persons may contact the project office at the following address:

Larry Eik, Project Engineer
Washington State Department of Transportation
2714 North Mayfair Street, Spokane, WA 99207
(509) 324-6250 Fax (509) 324-6255
Email: eikl@wsdot.wa.gov

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